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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7899

BILL NUMBER: SB 483

NOTE PREPARED: Feb 8, 2005

BILL AMENDED: Feb 7, 2005

SUBJECT: Voter Identification.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Heinold

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: CR Adopted - 1st House

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
X DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) The bill requires a precinct election officer to ask a voter to provide proof of identification before the voter is permitted to vote. The bill provides that a proof of identification is an unexpired document issued by the United States or the state of Indiana that shows the name of the individual to whom the document was issued and a photograph of that individual. The bill provides that if the voter swears or affirms under the penalties of perjury that the voter is indigent or has a religious objection to being photographed, the voter's refusal to provide identification must be noted on the poll list and in the statewide voter registration list.

Effective Date: (Revised) Upon passage; July 1, 2005.

Explanation of State Expenditures: (Revised) Under the bill, the Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) would be required to provide identification cards without photo images to persons applying for an identification card, due to religious objections. If the Bureau is not already capable of producing the card without photo images, it is likely that the Bureau would be able to implement this provision within existing resources. (See: *Explanation of State Revenues*)

Explanation of State Revenues: (Revised) *Background Information:* An identification card issued by the BMV is currently \$9. Of the fee amount, \$2 goes to the Motor Vehicle Highway Account; \$0.50 goes to the BMV Technology Fund; \$5.25 goes to the State License Branch Fund; and \$1.25 goes to the Anti-Terrorism Fund.

Explanation of Local Expenditures: Under the bill, poll clerks and assistant poll clerks would be required

to check the photo identification of a voter attempting to enter the polls. The provision of the bill would add to the administrative responsibility of poll clerks. However, the provision should be able to be administered within existing local resources.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Bureau of Motor Vehicles.

Local Agencies Affected: Precinct election boards.

Information Sources: Various County Election Boards and County Circuit Court Clerk's Offices.

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